

## NORTH END OF ST. LUCIE CO.

Fruits and Vegetables in That Section in Fine Condition.

The Staff correspondent of the New York Packer writes interestingly of the north end of St. Lucie county as follows:

Sebastian, Fla., Dec. 13.—While Sebastian is not a large shipping point for fruits and vegetables, yet it has some of the most interesting orange groves and beautiful homes on the east coast of Florida and what it does not ship in fruits it makes up in the fishing industry of R. A. Hardee & Co.

This firm owns and operates one of the largest fish businesses on Indian river and also owns the largest orange and grapefruit groves here, 9 acres in all, from which it expects to market 2,000 boxes of grapefruit and 800 boxes of oranges of the very best quality. This fruit is nearly all brights, very few russets being grown here. Besides this bearing grove of 1,000 trees there is a young grove of 3 acres which is more than promising.

W. C. Braddock, Jr., is another grower of both oranges, grapefruit and vegetables; 6 acres in groves and 7 acres in beans. He is now shipping eggplant and other vegetables. Mr. Braddock is also the leading merchant here and is said to be the largest shipper of absolutely fresh eggs on the east coast. I say absolutely fresh because Mr. Braddock does not deal in storage eggs, but ships them daily as they come from his farm.

G. Kroegel has a fine 10 acre grove down on the river bank, sheltered from the winds by one of the wonders of this country, a shell mountain. Here one finds the famous navel orange in all its perfection, sweet, large, seedless and smooth. All of the fruit in this grove is of fine quality and while this is an ideal spot for an orange grove the healthy condition of the trees proves the reputation the Germans have as horticulturists.

Foster & Groves have a fine grove here on the ridge and one of the most beautiful home spots in Florida, high above the town, surrounded with fine shade and tropical fruit trees, flowing wells of pure water and a background of as fine an orange and grapefruit grove as one wishes to look at.

G. B. Hall & Co., who own a fine grove some miles west of this place, are large shippers of both fruits and vegetables. This firm has a fine packing house here and is now shipping oranges, also beans and other vegetables. They make a specialty of shipping to hotels direct, and put out a very fancy article.

Among other growers and shippers are W. T. Laine, oranges and vegetables, now shipping beans; Ivey Lawson and G. A. Braddock, orange and grapefruit groves, and many others.

Roseland, two miles north of Sebastian, is a most interesting place and Col. H. D. Ruffner's hospitable home is one of the finest natural spots in southern Florida. The colonel is an old Virginia gentleman and he and Mrs. Ruffner certainly know how to keep up the reputation of that state for its hospitality. His orange grove is one of the best in the state and the location unsurpassed. With the Indian river to the east and the Sebastian river on the north it is warm in winter and cool in summer and the oranges and grapefruit here show a freshness and perfection seldom seen in ordinary locations.

Everything in fruits can be found here in this 20-acre grove, watered with three large flowing wells. Many other interesting objects are here, among them a nine-year-old alligator over eleven feet long, a pet of the colonel, which he feeds on wild cat meat to entertain his visitors and make the alligator grow still larger.

A. E. Campbell has a fine grove here adjoining the Ruffner grove, and while the fruit in both these groves is ripe, and of the finest quality, yet these gentlemen do not believe in early shipments and will not put their large crops on the market before January.

Another grower here is Robert Bowler, who besides having an orange grove, gives much attention to vegetables, especially eggplant, of which he is now shipping.

## A Miraculous Cure.

The following statement by H. M. Adams and wife, Henrietta, Pa., will interest parents and others. "A miraculous cure has taken place in our home. Our child had eczema 5 years and was pronounced incurable, when we read about Electric Bitters, and concluded to try it. Before the second bottle was all taken we noticed a change for the better, and after taking 7 bottles he was completely cured. It's the up-to-date blood medicine and body building tonic. Guaranteed. 50c and \$1.00 at Fort Pierce Drug Co.

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